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How To Grow Peonies





Mohican Peony Gardens
West Lawn
Penna.
U.S.A.



How to Grow Peonies

Annual price list sent free on request



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by

MOHICAN PEONY GARDENS

West Lawn, Penna.

U. S. A.



THE COOL QUIET OF A GARDEN

Your Garden

THIS hurrying, whirling world needs to let up the pace and relax the nerves—needs to take life a little less seriously, a little more joyously; a little less tensely—a little more freely. We need a little less of the whirl of motors—a little more of the cool quiet of gardens. A little less of rushing recklessly to ruined nerves—a little more of building health by the building of our gardens.

And if we can agree that garden work adds to health, which is the foundation of happiness, then we can get down to the subject of keeping the doctor in the same class with flowers—an ornament—and also arrive at the subject of peonies in your garden.



Now your garden does not have to be as big as a flying field, nor any larger than the space used by a parked car. In fact, that all-important health of yours will probably be greater if you are too poor to have a large garden and a hard-working gardener. You see, we are concerned with your health and not that of the hired man. Something selfish in that, too, be-

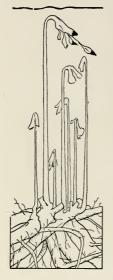
cause if we can get you interested in your own garden, we are going to be able to prove to you that peonies are the most satisfactory plants you can select. You are going to find that the peony is an ideal plant because it is so easy to grow. For the experienced gardener it is essential for decorative effect in the garden and in the house, offering tremendous opportunity for detailed study and enjoyment. The inexperienced gardener can quickly gain the knowledge which makes it real fun to study peonies and to "put on a show".

Peonies Are Hardy

Just to give you an example of how very hardy they are, let us tell you of the toughest peony we ever met. In our packing shed, with earth floor, there is one place where boards are close to the ground where our roots are packed, just after they have been dug. Once, when we were packing roots, a very small piece of a root, with only one eye, broke off from a nice, big, two-year plant and fell under that board, got covered with a bit of dirt and the following summer we discovered it—no, it was not in bloom, but that brave little piece of peony had grown and sent up one stem, around

the edge of the board, and was actually prospering. You just can't keep a good peony down.

Then there was another peony root which was, perhaps, not the toughest critter under the soil, but it certainly had brains. Let us draw a picture of what this root with brains did. Here is the picture. And here is the story. The poor thing was planted about six inches



too deep—that is, the top-most eyes were about eight inches below the surface. When spring came our hero peony plant heard the urge of spring and started to grow. It sent seven slender, celery-colored stems in the right direction (we can't figure out how it knew which way to go) and raced like a grape vine for the sunshine. But when the leading stem reached the surface it was a hot summer day. The peony season was over and the sun burned the tender tips of the would-be leaves. What to do?

We've lived with peonies a good many years but we certainly would have been stumped with that problem. Not our hero. That leading stem just turned around and ducked under and what surprised us was that it telegraphed to the other six stems and, although they had not felt the heat of the summer sun, they too ducked under. We know human beings who haven't brains

enough to duck under when things get too hot for them.

When a root has been planted too deep, it either will not come up at all or, when it reaches the surface, it will look sickly and weak, with slender stems. The leaves may reach less than 12 inches above the ground, instead of two feet or more. The buds will not mature and, instead of being high above the leaves, will be found close to the main stem—very small and prematurely dried up.

Another clever thing about the peony is that it comes up smiling when the chill of winter leaves us. Tender slips push their way through rugged soil and climb invisible ladders to build glorious green foliage, soon to be surmounted with radiant colors—your garden's first big flowers.

But why should we try to picture the glories of a mass display of peonies? Buy a box of freshly dug roots—plant them in your own garden and learn just how grand Nature can be. Radiant color in the June garden is the promise of the peony.





Your peony garden can become a reality over the winter by the purchase of our two year stock, instead of buying divisions and waiting two or three years for results. Life is really too short to "hang around" a couple of extra years for results, when a reliable grower has a good stock of plants all ready to start producing for you.

History of the Peony

Early writings of the Greeks and Romans mention the peony, the roots of which were supposed to possess curative powers. The ancient Chinese cultivated the peony for its decorative qualities; antique Chinese vases of great beauty show the peony as the central motif.

By skillful crossing of Chinese varieties, followed by years of patient growing of many seedlings, the great French gardeners of the 18th and 19th centuries have enriched the world's greatest gardens by the creation of the modern peony with its lovely perfumes, shapes and colors.

Europe took first honors in developing the peony but American originators, during the past 75 years, have done their share in bringing to us new peonies possessing new beauty and new charm.

We owe a debt of gratitude to the American Peony Society, whose work of classifying has made it easy for you to select peonies of known merit.

Because peonies are propagated by root division the identity of fine varieties is never lost, so that in your garden you may have peonies that possess the same character—the same shape—the same color—the same perfume—as ones which a King of France held in high esteem, even when he was bored with the possession of great wealth.

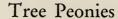
What Types of Peonies

Your first impulse in buying your first peonies will probably be to decide on the colors you like best and let it go at that. Now that would not be fair to your garden and to your neighbors and to your friends and to all the peonies that are begging for the privilege of being invited into your garden. But above all it would not be fair to yourself—you would be missing too much—so let us go into this matter of varieties rather carefully.

We shall list, a little later on in these pages, the names that apply to types of peonies but, for a start, let us call attention to the two important groups, neither of which should be omitted from



your gardens—TREE peonies, perhaps the least known, generally, and HERBACEOUS peonies.





Are so called because the stems, of wood-like structure, do not die down to the ground in the fall of the year. Buds appear on the shrub-like, woody stems in the fall and open very early in the spring—some ten days before the earliest of other peonies. The flowers are of single or double form, are usually larger than herbaceous types and, on old plants, grow in great pro-

fusion. Fifty years is not a great age for a tree peony.

Propagation of tree peonies, by cleft-grafting to herbaceous roots, is extremely difficult and costly, resulting in actual shortage of named varieties. The named tree peonies listed within these pages were all grafted and are therefore true to type. Grown from seed they will not reproduce true to type: that is, they will not resemble the parent plants. The unnamed tree peonies listed (in our price lists) are seed-grown. Because the quality of the flower is inspected before such plants are approved for shipment, unnamed stock may be purchased with confidence.

Herbaceous Peonies

The stems die down to the ground in the fall. Buds form on the root after the blooming season, one to three inches below the surface of the ground, the buds being called "eyes". It is here that we wish, for the sake of clarity, to divide herbaceous peonies into two groups the first being:

Single and Japanese

These have very few petals, which open and close with the rising and setting of the sun and resemble a wild rose except that the size of the flowers is, of course, much greater. They open during midseason and hold their freshness longer than the double types. Increasing popularity of the Singles and "Japs" accounts for this grouping of them as distinct from the other Herbaceous peonies, the

Doubles

Best known of peonies, attain great size and offer the full range of color, blooming season and fragrance. You will find them listed below as Semi-double, Double, Crown and Bomb.





Herbaceous—Double Type

A TREE PEONY—DOUBLE TYPE



Types of Bloom

Modern Herbaceous peonies were originated by crossing different varieties of the old and original Chinese paeonia (P. Chinensis or P. Albiflora) and have been classified, by the American Peony Society, into seven types:



SINGLE. Those with a single row of wide guards and a center of yellow pollen-bearing stamens.



ANEMONE. This type is a step further in the process of doubling, with the stamens all transformed into short narrow petals, forming a round cushion in the center of the flower.



JAPANESE. These have wide guards the same as the Singles, but with the stamens and anthers greatly enlarged into narrow, thick petaloids of various colors, tipped with vestiges of the yellow anthers without pollen.



SEMI-DOUBLE. Those with several rows of wide petals and a center of stamens and partially transformed petaloids. Many of the reds are of this type.



DOUBLE. In these the process of doubling is completed, all stamens fully transformed into evenly arranged wide petaloids, similar to the guards, forming a perfect rose-shaped bloom.



CROWN. In this type wide petals are developed in the center of the flower, forming a high crown with the narrow, short petals forming a ring or collar around it. Often the crown and guards are one color, and the collar another or lighter shade.



BOMB. The next step is this type in which all the center petals are uniformly wide approaching the guards, but distinctly differentiated from them, forming a globe-shaped center without collar or crown.



The American Peony Society has established a method of rating based on color, form, size, distinctiveness, substance, stem and fragrance which serves as a reliable guide. The valuation is on a scale of 10, in which a grade of 10.0 represents perfection; 9.0 indicates very high quality, etc. Ratings are given in this book, both in the Chart, pages 24, 25, and 26, and in the Descriptive List, pages 28 to 45.

Books on the Peony

For greater detail than we are able to give here, we refer you to THE MANUAL OF THE AMERICAN PEONY SOCIETY, a 350 page book which we can order for you on request. The Society issues frequent bulletins to members; membership is not expensive and is open to professional and amateur growers. THE BOOK OF THE PEONY by Mrs. Edward Harding (Lippincott) is also recommended very highly for those who seek additional information.

How to Select Peonies

You might like to have an acre of peonies but there are two important fundamentals to be considered: cost and space. It is therefore highly desirable to determine how much you are going to invest in peonies and how much room they are going to occupy. Since they should be planted three feet apart, each way, you can quickly figure how many plants to buy. The amount to be spent is all up to you. We can only hope for the privilege of helping to beautify the selected space.

It pays to buy the better varieties, which are just as easy to grow as the low priced ones and take up no more room. In determining what price you are going to pay for peonies, consider also the value of your garden space and your desire for satisfactory results; then you will surely appreciate the wisdom of having the best. If you are a beginner you may elect to grow the low priced ones. That is all very well but take one or two of the highly rated ones and reserve a bit of space for the days when you are going to be a peony "fan"—that day will surely come if you spend a bit of time among peonies. It may be well to buy divisions of the high priced peonies and two year plants of the inexpensive ones.



Varieties to Buy

The peonies listed here are the best only. None are poor; you will experience no disappointments. Every class—every variety—is represented in this book. If you do not find the name of a peony you are looking for it is either because it is not worthy of space within these pages or there is another variety so closely resembling it that to list both would be mere duplication.

Determine upon the colors wanted and distribute your selections so that different seasons will be represented (early, mid and late); different types will be represented (Tree, Single, Jap and Double). The Chart on pages 24, 25, and 26 will be found a great help with occasional reference to the Descriptive List on pages 28 to 45.

Special Collections

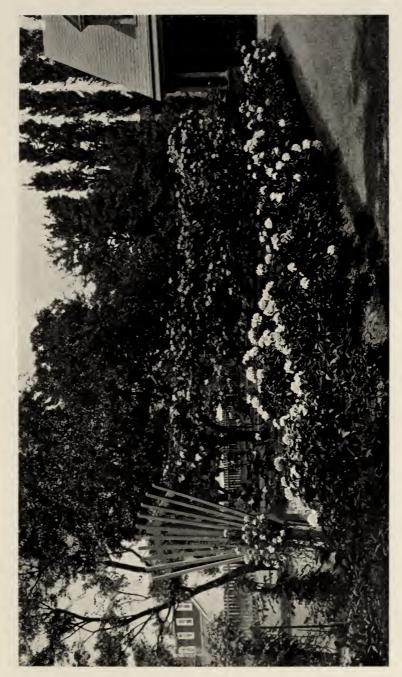
Offered in our annual price list, sent free on request, are honest selections of choice varieties at low cost. If your knowledge of peonies is limited buy one or more of the collections with confidence. They are made for your convenience and are full of value.

What Size of Root

Peonies are propagated by the cutting up or "dividing" of roots which were "divisions" some three years before (dividing in three years or so is only a commercial practice, not necessary or advisable



Two Year Herbaceous Root



MOHICAN PEONIES

in private gardens). We can ship either divisions or two year



stock, as our annual price list may offer (price list sent free upon request). Divisions do not produce results as quickly as two year plants. Why should they? Two year plants have had a chance to develop and are ready to produce quick results for you. It will not be necessary for you to divide them for many years. If you care to wait for results, order divisions. Our

two year plants are generally priced 50% above the price of divisions. A division at a dollar or a two year plant at \$1.50; a division at \$5.00 or a two year plant at \$7.50. We offer both in our price list whenever our supply makes it possible to do so.

Climate of the Peony

Peonies prosper where apples grow, or could be grown, and a bit further South than that, too. If your winter does not bring heavy frosts, you may experience difficulty in growing peonies successfully. They like cold winters.

Soil Conditions

The requirements are modest and include average loam soil to heavy clay; predominantly sandy soil will not do without heavy additions of humus. Good drainage is essential; they must have at least half of the day's sunshine—the more the better.

How to Use Peonies

The richness of their foliage from spring until fall makes them admirable for borders, along walks, in front of high trees or shrubs



(Southern exposure here, please); along a fence line (but not under trees, if you please); they are excellent for mass effect on a great expanse of lawn. For mass effect keep down the number of varieties. Peonies add charm to any vista and lend enchantment to distance. With all that, they are unexcelled for cutting, for use in your home, or for weddings. They are

planted extensively about hospital grounds and in cemeteries.



An Extensive Planting



AN INTIMATE CORNER

Fifteen

When to Plant

September is ideal, October is quite satisfactory, November is good, December will do if the ground is not frozen and that holds for January, too. Spring planting of roots dug the preceding fall, and winter-stored, is satisfactory if the job is well done but the spring planting season is very short, namely, between final thawing and the beginning of spring growth.

How to Plant

Dig a hole six or eight inches larger and deeper than the root. Handle the root at the heaviest part and avoid touching the eyes. Every broken eye means one less stem next year. Hold the root in the hole at



the point where the *top-most* eyes are about 2 inches (not less than one nor more than three) below the surrounding surface of the ground. Now drag soil into the hole, under the root, and pack it firm and repeat until the root is resting on the firm bottom of the hole. Then pack mixed dirt and peat moss, in which our roots are shipped, around all parts of the root system,

being careful to pack firmly but not so carelessly as to break the root. When the hole is thus about half filled fertilizer may be added by sprinkling it everywhere in the hole except directly on the root. (See "Fertilizer Recommended," below, for amount to use per plant). Add more dirt and peat moss, mixed, until the hole is about full, when the balance of the fertilizer may be added. Finish with just a bit more dirt.

Tree peonies should be planted deeper than others. By examining the stems of a tree peony it may be noted that they are stained, indicating the depth at which the plant has been grown. Plant one inch deeper.

Keep a Record

We urge you to become familiar with peonies by name and to keep a careful record of your planting. The purchase of duplicates is easily accomplished or avoided only if you know your plants by name. Please do not expect even an expert on peonies to identify a variety, the name of which you have lost, even if that expert stands right in your garden and looks at the plants in full bloom. And please don't send cut flowers to your grower, asking for iden-

tification. It is well to place a good marker near each variety. A little map of your garden, roughly drawn in the back of this book, will also serve as a permanent record. Better yet, label the plants in the garden and keep a written record too.

Fertilizer Recommended

The old standby is a 50-50 mixture, by weight, of bone meal and sheep manure (by measure, use twice as much sheep manure to a measure of bone meal). Of this mixture, use between a pint and a quart per root, depending upon the fertility of the soil.

There are several satisfactory commercial plant foods on the market, such as 4-12-4, which should be used at the rate of $\frac{1}{2}$ cup or less per root when first planted.

Well rotted barnyard manure is all right if kept from direct contact with the roots. Peat moss is always an aid to the growth of plants and is especially desirable in heavy soils. We use peat moss for packing material; don't throw it away—mix it with the soil around the roots.

It is impossible to tell you *exactly* how much fertilizer *your* soil requires; remember that commercial fertilizers are highly concentrated plant foods and should be used sparingly; the mixture of bone meal and sheep manure may be used more freely. Do not use stable manure.

Winter Mulch

Peonies do not need protection against cold but to prevent heaving, the first winter, a light mulch of straw will do no harm. In our own gardens we consider this unnecessary.

Use of Lime

Peonies need soil of slightly lime content. Do not recklessly add lime without knowing that it is needed. One reliable test for acidity of soil is the use of Litmus Paper (your local seed house or your druggist can help you make the test). If the results indicate an acid condition, add lime; otherwise do not use lime. Traces of moss or greenish fungus on the surface of the soil indicate an acid condition.

Spring Care

If you want fine flowers the plants should be fed with a reasonable amount of fertilizer at the beginning of the growing season—

end of March or early in April. Scatter the fertilizer, recommended above, around each plant and work it gently into the soil—gently, because the eyes are on their way out at this time and care should be used not to damage the young sprouts. Is it necessary to mention the battle of weeds? We think not but if you have planted the peonies where they do not get the normal amount of rain, or if the season is a dry one, watering will promote growth and help to produce fine blooms, as with any other vegetation.

Disbud for Big Blooms



If you want enormous flowers, disbud when the leading (top-most) bud is about ½ inch in diameter. Disbudding consists of the removal of side buds while they are very small—rather hard to locate until you become familiar with their locations. Even then you will miss some of the side buds; a second trip will assure a thorough job. If you want "mass effect" and

prolongation of the blooming period, do not disbud.

Rose Bugs and Ants

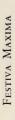
Don't let them annoy you. They seldom do any harm. They are after the sweet, sticky sap found on the buds. If these insects worry you, knock them off the plants and step on them. Some years they are on the job by the thousands; other years they are hard to find. Of course there are good sprays on the market which can be safely used if rose bugs are too numerous and destructive. They are never a problem with us because there are so many birds in our gardens.

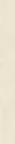
Buds That Fail to Develop

And turn a tobacco brown, usually appear on plants set too



deep; replanting is the only cure unless you are willing to wait several years for flowers. Little dried-up buds may indicate that the plant was nipped by a late spring frost; better luck next year. Plants that produce no buds, or large buds that fail to open, may be diseased. These should either be discarded or in the fall of the year they should be dug up and thoroughly







CLAIRE DUBOIS

cleaned and given one of the following treatments. (1) Let the roots lie in an exposed position, hot and dry, for ten days. They will dry up and look hopelessly dead; do not worry. At the end of ten days soak them in water for 30 minutes before planting. (2) Soak the cleaned roots in a 2% solution of formaldehyde for 30 minutes. (3) Immerse them in water held at 120° F. for 30 minutes. After any one of these treatments, replant in a new location. Do not put peonies in the old location for at least three years or remove and replace the soil, which probably caused the infection.

Cutting

It is something of a trick to cut, in the bud, at just the right time. The best method is to cut when the bud has opened enough to "show color". Another method of judging is to pinch the bud gently between finger-tips. If "hard as a bullet", do not cut. If



almost as soft as a marsh-mallow, cut. In cutting use a sharp knife or sharp pruning shears. Do not cut close to the ground, just to have long stems on the flowers. Leave at least two leaf-stems on each stem. If the plant is young do not cut all the flowers. It is always advisable to leave one or more flowers on any plant.

Putting on a Flower Show



You may wish to stage a show in your own home, in a public building, such as the lobby of the local bank or in the best store window in town. The head of the firm will surely be delighted to give you space. Or you may exhibit your peonies in a flower show under the auspices of the local garden club. In any event it is really a great satisfaction to exhibit

your peonies, especially when the job is well done.

For show use the buds should be cut in the early morning, transported at once, without water, to a convenient cool, dark room, if the show is to be staged within twenty-four hours. If the show is not to open for several days the flowers should be placed in cold dry storage at about 40° F. Do not put them in water while in storage. When the show is being set up figure on the buds opening in two



MADAME DE VERNEVILLE



FESTIVA MAXIMA Two Moderately Priced Peonies



or three hours from the time they are placed in water. Some may fail to open; a reserve supply of each variety should be available for replacement.

The best background for your display is evergreen boughs or deciduous branches in full leaf. Supports for vases should be at various levels; if these supporting shelves or tables are covered with black cloth or black oil-cloth the effect is very striking. As the exhibit is being arranged the flowers should still be in bud form. They will open soon enough; do not be alarmed if they look small. Give the buds lots of space; when they open they will need it. Do not crowd them into vases. Give them lots of water—about one gallon of water per dozen is a good rule; two dozen flowers in a bucket; only three

in a vase the size of a milk bottle. Containers should be uniform and either inconspicuous or beautiful.

Peony leaf-stems or pieces of evergreen boughs, thrust into the vase, halfway to the bottom, help to hold the flowers in position. Or a light rubber band wrapped around the stems, two or three inches from the ends, will help to hold the flowers in position. In applying the rubber band, first collect the flowers into a bunch, with the ends approximately even, and wrap the band around the stems; then drop the entire bunch into the vase and arrange them.

Correct labeling of varieties adds to the interest of a show. We will supply, at cost, a very convenient paper label with zinc "string" if ordered in ample time. A special display card with your name, and ours as growers of peonies, will be supplied free if the request reaches us in ample time to have the card made for you.

After the Blooming Season

During July fertilize again, using the amount of fertilizer already recommended. Work this into the top soil with a light hoe. Herbaceous peonies will wilt in the fall and should then, not sooner, be cut to the ground and the cuttings should be removed and burned. Tree peonies should not be cut back at all.



An Invitation

Early in June our acres of peonies are in bloom. In average years they are at their best from about the sixth to the fifteenth of June. Please visit our gardens—you will be most welcome at any time of day or evening—Sundays included.

We are located four miles west of Reading, Penna., on the Reading-Harrisburg pike, on the north side of the highway and back about a thousand feet.

The Chart

You will probably find the Chart on the next three pages extremely useful in making quick comparison of the chief characteristics of the varieties listed. Its greatest value is its brevity; for more detailed descriptions turn to the Descriptive List, pages 28 to 45.

No prices are given in this book but a price list and occasional special offers will be sent free on request.



MADAME DUCEL
This plant had 342 buds, before disbudding



The Chart

DOUBLES

	Fra-	0	77. 1.	***	**	For
Color	grance	Season	Variety	Vigor	Height	Cut- ting
Deep Red	*******	Early	Adolphe Rousseau (8.5)	X	XX	X
Light Pink	XX	Late	Albert Crousse (8.6)	XX	XX	XXX
Light Pink	X	Early	Alexandriana (7.1)	XX	XX	X
Tri-color	X	Early-mid.	Alice de Julvecourt (7.2)	XX	X	X
Light Pink		Midseason	Alice Harding (9.5)	XX	XX	XXX
Cream-white	*********	Late-mid.	Alsace Lorraine (8.8)	XX	XX	XXX
Light Pink	XX	Midseason	Asa Gray (8.1)	X	X	XX
Deep Pink		Midseason	Auguste Dessert (8.7)	X	XX	X
White	X	Midseason	Avalanche (8.7)	XX	XX	XXX
Light Red	X	Midseason	Aviateur Reymond (8.0)	XXX	XXX	$\mathbf{X}\mathbf{X}$
White	X	Late-mid.	Ball O'Cotton (8.8)	X	XX	X
White	X	Midseason	Baroness Schroeder (9.0)	XX	XX	XXX
White		Midseason	Bayadere (8.5)	X	XX	X
Dark Red	X	Midseason	Benjamin Franklin (8.1)	XX	XXX	XXX
Deep Pink		Late	Berloiz (7.0)	XX	XX	X
Maroon		Very Early	Cherry Hill (8.6)	X	XX	$\mathbf{X}\mathbf{X}$
Deep Pink	X	Midseason	Claire Dubois (8.7)	XX	XX	XXX
Deep Pink		Very Early	Coquelin (7.2)	X	X	X
White	X	Late	Cornelia Shaylor (9.1)	XX	XX	XXX
Yel. & White	XX	Late	Couronne d'Or (8.1)	XX	XX	XX
Light Red		Midseason	David Harum (8.4)	XX	XXX	XXX
Yel. & White	X	Early	Duchesse de Nemours (8.1)	XX	X	XXX
White	X	Late-mid.	Duke of Wellington (7.8)	XX	XX	XX
Deep Pink	XXX	Very Early	Edulis Superba (7.6)	XX	XX	XXX
Light Pink	XX	Midseason	Edwin C. Shaw (9.1)	X	X	XX
White	XX	Very Late	Elizabeth B. Browning (9.2)	X	XX	XX
White	X	Very Late	Enchanteresse (8.9)	XX	XX	XX
Light Pink	XX	Late	Eugene Verdier (8.3)	XX	XX	XX
Light Pink	X	Midseason	Eugenie Verdier (8.6)	X	XX	XX
Light Red	X	Midseason	Felix Crousse (8.4)	XX	XX	XXX
White	X	Very Early	Festiva Maxima (9.3)	XXX	XXX	XXX
Light Pink	X	Midseason	Floral Treasure (7.5)	XX	X	XX
White	X	Late	Frances Willard (9.1)	XX	XX	XXX
Red	X	Early	Francois Rousseau (8.2)	XX	X	X
Light Pink	X	Late-mid.	Georgiana Shaylor (8.9)	XX	X	XX
Light Pink	X	Midseason	Germaine Bigot (8.5)	X	XX	X
Tri-color	X	Midseason	Gloire de C. Gombault (7.9)	XX	XX	XX
White	X	Late	Grace Loomis (9.2)	XX	X	X
Light Pink	XX	Very Late	Grandiflora (8.8)	XX	XX	XX
Red	X	Late-mid.	Grover Cleveland (8.2)	X	X	XX
Light Pink		Early-mid.	James Kelway (8.7)	X	XX	XXX
Tri-color	X	Midseason	Jeanne d'Arc (7.9)	XX	X	XXX
White	*********	Midseason	Jubilee (8.9)	X	XX	X
Light Pink	X	Early	Judge Berry (8.6)	X	X	X
Red		Midseason	Karl Rosenfield (8.8)	XX	XX	XXX



The Chart

	Fra-					For
Color	grance	Season	Variety	Vigor	Height	Cut-
White	XX	Early-mid.	Kelway's Glorious (9.8)	XX	XX	ting XX
Pale Pink	XX	Early	Lady Alexandra Duff (9.1)	XX	XX	X
Light Pink	XX	Early-mid.	La Fee (9.2)	XX	XX	X
Light Pink	X	Very Late	La France (9.0)	XX	XX	XX
Cream-white	XX	Midseason	La Rosiere (8.3)	X	XX	XX
White	X	Early-mid.	La Tendresse (8.1)	XX	XX	X
Yellow	X	Early-mid.	Laura Dessert (8.8)	XX	X	X
White	XX	Midseason	Le Cygne (9.9)	XX	XX	XXX
Deep Pink	XX	Late-mid.	Lillian Gumm (8.8)	XX	XX	XXX
Light Pink		Very Late	Livingstone (8.1)	XX	XX	XXX
Red		Midseason	Longfellow (9.0)	X	X	XX
Light Pink	X	Very Late	Loveliness (8.8)	XX	X	X
Deep Pink	XX	Midseason	Mabel L. Franklin (9.0)	XX	X	X
Light Pink	X	Early-mid.	Mme. August Dessert (8.6)	XX	XX	X
Pale Pink	X	Early-mid.	Mme. Calot (8.1)	XX	XX	XXX
White	XX	Early	Mme. de Verneville (7.9)	XX	XX	XXX
Deep Pink	XX	Early-mid.	Mme. Ducel (7.9)	XX	XX	XXX
Light Pink	XX	Late-mid.	Mme. Emile Galle (8.5)	XX	X	XXX
White	XX	Midseason	Mme. Emile Lemoine (8.9)	XX	XX	XX
Deep Pink	XX	Late-mid.	Mme. Geissler (7.9)	XX	XXX	XX
White	X	Late-mid.	Mme. Jules Dessert (9.4)	XX	XX	XXX
Light Pink	X	Late-mid.	Marguerite Gerard (8.4)	XX	XX	X
Light Pink	X	Midseason	Marie Crousse (8.9)	XX	XX	XXX
Ivory White	X	Late	Marie Lemoine (8.5)	XX	X	XXX
Deep Pink	XX	Late	Martha Bullock (9.1)	XX	XX	XXX
Red		Midseason	Mary Brand (8.7)	X	X	XXX
Light Pink	XXX	Very Late	Maud L. Richardson (8.5)	XX	XX	X
Pale Pink		Late	Milton Hill (9.0)	XX	XX	XXX
Light Pink	X	Late	Modele de Perfection (7.8)	XX	X	X
Deep Pink	X	Midseason	Modeste Guerin (7.8)	XX	XX	XXX
Ivory White	XX	Late-mid.	Mons. Dupont (8.3)	XX	XX	XX
Deep Pink	XXX	Early	Mons. Jules Elie (9.2)	XX	XX	XXX
Darkest Red		Early-mid.	Mons. Martin Cahuzac (8.8)	XX	X	XX
White	X	Late	Mrs. A. M. Brand (9.6)	XX	X	XX
White		Midseason	Mrs. Edward Harding (9.3)	XX	X	XX
White	X	Late-mid.	Myrtle Gentry (9.1)	XX	XX	X
White	X	Midseason	Nina Secor (9.0)	XX	X	X
White	X	Midseason	Nymphaea (8.8)	XXX	XX	X
Light Pink	X	Early-mid.	Octavie Demay (8.5)	XX	X	XX
Red		Very Early	Officinalis Rubra Superba	X	X	XXX
Light Pink	X	Late-mid.	Pasteur (8.4)	XX	XX	XX
Red	XX	Midseason	Philippe Rivoire (9.2)	X	X	XXX
Light Pink	X	Very Late	Phoebe Cary (8.8)	XX	XX	XXX
Light Pink	X	Midseason	Phyllis Kelway (9.0)	XX	X	X
Light Pink	XX	Late	President Wilson (9.3)	X	X	XX
Pale Yellow	XX	Midseason	Primevere (8.6)	XX	XX	XX
Light Pink	XX	Midseason	Pride of Essex (8.9)	XX	XX	X
			,			



The Chart

Fra-							
Color	grance	Season	Variety	Vigor	Height	Cut- ting	
Deep Pink	XX	Late	Raoul Dessert (9.0)	XX	X	XX	
Light Pink	X	Midseason	Reine Hortense (8.7)	XX	XX	XXX	
Red	XX	Very Early	Richard Carvel (8.8)	XX	XX	XXX	
Light Pink	X	Midseason	Rose Shaylor (9.1)	XX	XX	XX	
Light Pink	XX	Late-mid.	Sarah Bernhardt (9.0)	XX	XX	XXX	
Cream White	X	Midseason	Solange (9.7)	XX	XX	XXX	
Pale Yellow	X	Midseason	Solfatare (7.6)	X	X	X	
Deep Pink	X	Midseason	Souv. de Louis Bigot (9.1)	X	X	XX	
Rose Pink	X	Midseason	Suzette (8.2)	XX	X	XX	
Bright Red	XX	Very Early	Tenuifolia flore-pleno (7.8)	X	X	X	
Light Pink	XX	Early	Therese (9.8)	XX	XX	XXX	
Light Pink	X	Late-mid.	Tourangelle (9.4)	X	XX	XX	
Light Pink	X	Midseason	Triomphe l'Ex. de Lille (7.8)	XX	XX	XX	
Light Pink	X	Very Early	Umbellata Rosea (7.4)	XX	X	X	
Red		Midseason	Victoire de la Marne (8.2)	XX	X	XX	
Deep Pink	X	Midseason	Walter Faxon (9.3)	XX	XX	XX	
SINGLES AND JAPANESE							
White	X	Early-mid.	Albiflora (S) (8.4)	XX	XX	XX	
Light Pink		Midseason	Alma (Jap) (8.5)	X	X	X	
Deep Pink		Midseason	Amo-no-sode (Jap) (9.2)	XX	X	XX	
Dark Red		Midseason	Black Prince (S) (8.5)	XX	X	X	
Deep Pink	X	Midseason	Cathedral (Jap) (8.1)	$\mathbf{x}\mathbf{x}$	XX	X	
Light Pink		Midseason	Clairette (S) (8.1)	$\mathbf{X}\mathbf{X}$	XX	XX	
Light Pink		Midseason	Clio (S) (6.5)	XX	X	X	
Dark Red		Midseason	Flashlight (Jap) (8.2)	XX	X	\mathbf{x}	
Deep Red	X	Midseason	Fuyajo (Jap) (9.2)	XX	XX	XX	
Dark Red		Midseason	Gypsy (Jap) (8.0)	XX	X	X	
Deep Red	X	Early-mid.	King of England (Jap) (8.6)	X	XX	$\mathbf{X}\mathbf{X}$	
White		Early-mid.	LeJour (S) (8.6)	XX	XX	$\mathbf{X}\mathbf{X}$	
Deep Pink		Midseason	L'Etincelante (S) (8.4)	XX	XX	$\mathbf{X}\mathbf{X}$	
White		Midseason	Margaret Atwood (Jap) (8.7)	XX	X	\mathbf{x}	
Pink & White	X	Midseason	Marguerite Dessert (S) (8.5)	XX	XX	$\mathbf{X}\mathbf{X}$	
White	X	Midseason	Marie Jacquin (S) (8.3)	XX	XX	XX	
Red	*******	Midseason	Mikado (Jap) (8.6)	X	X	X	
Bright Pink	XX	Midseason	Ohirama (Jap) (8.2)	X	X	X	
White		Early-mid.	Perle Blanche (S) (8.4)	XX	XX	$\mathbf{X}\mathbf{X}$	
Deep Pink		Midseason	Petite Renee (S) (7.6)	$\mathbf{X}\mathbf{X}$	X	X	
Light Pink		Midseason	Pride of Langport (S) (8.9)	$\mathbf{X}\mathbf{X}$	XX	XX	
Dark Red	XX	Midseason	Someganoko (Jap) (9.0)	XX	X	XX	
Deep Pink	X	Midseason	Tamate-Boku (Jap) (9.4)	XX	X	XX	
Rose Pink		Midseason	Tokio (Jap) (8.9)	XX	X	X	
White		Late-mid.	White Lady (Jap) (9.0)	XX	X	X	

TREE PEONIES
See detailed descriptions





Two Views of the Same Garden Milton Hill, Therese and Tourangelle



Descriptive List

IN parenthesis we give the name of the originator and date of introduction, followed by American Peony Society Symposium rating. Color names in italics are from Ridgway's Color Standards and Nomenclature.

ADOLPHE ROUSSEAU. (Dessert & Mechin, 1890.) 8.5.

Very large, dark, *pomegranate purple* with metallic reflex. Classed as semi-double but on old, established plants, which grow very tall, the flowers vary in form from almost single to semi-double. Among the earliest reds, its striking appearance makes it very much in demand.

ALBERT CROUSSE. (Crousse, 1893.) 8.6.

One of the most striking and perhaps the most distinct Peony in existence, there being nothing else of just the same form and character. Immense bloom, very full and compact; small, imbricated and very dense petalage from the outside to the very heart of the flower. Rose pink, with center shaded clear pink. In color and form like an enormous pink carnation. Very sweet fragrance. Tall, erect in growth and a late bloomer. A superb and an extraordinary Peony.

ALEXANDRIANA. (Calot, 1856.) 7.1.

Very large and full double rose pink with silver edges. An unusually strong grower, with great quantities of delightfully fragrant flowers on strong upright stems. A very fine early cut-flower sort. In spite of its comparatively low price, one of the most valuable Peonies we have.

ALICE DE JULVECOURT. (Pele, 1857.) 7.2.

Very double, perfectly built fragrant flower; soft pink, delicately shaded rose and cream, with central petals beautifully edged with red. An exquisite combination of coloring not easily described. A very free and rather early bloomer. (We consider this one of the very finest Peonies of the light varieties in cultivation).

ALICE HARDING. (Lemoine, 1922.) 9.5.

Double type; large; midseason. Broad, evenly rounded guard-petals of delicate flesh-pink flushed darker on the reverse, surround a cupped center of long, irregular petals of creamy white; stamens concealed in the collar; center-band petals minutely marked with crimson. Medium height; fairly floriferous. Stems and foliage good.

ALSACE LORRAINE. (Lemoine, 1906.) 8.8.

This tall and vigorous plant carries erectly large, white semi-rose type flowers which bloom in late mid-season. The white petals are pointed and reflect the light of the stamens, suggesting the water lily.

ASA GRAY. (Crousse, 1886.) 8.1.

Immense, massive and compact bloom imbricated like a rose; very full and fine of form. Pale rose pink very delicately dotted with carmine. An imposing and extraordinary flower and very fragrant.

AUGUSTE DESSERT. (Dessert, 1920.) 8.7.

Double type; large; midseason. Big, round petals symmetrically graduated toward a loose center which shows a few stamens; intensely pink, no blue and no yellow—each petal edged with a narrow silvery border; fragrance not notable. Plant of moderate height and seems fairly prolific.

AVALANCHE. (Crousse, 1886.) 8.7.

Large, glorious bloom of perfect form; fine, milk white; creamy center. Absolutely identical with Albatre. The fragrant flowers bloom abundantly in late mid-season and are fine for cutting.

AVIATEUR REYMOND. (Dessert, 1915.) 8.0.

Double type; very large; midseason. Dull, light crimson blooms of globular form, with a strong lavender sheen particularly noticeable at the edges of the petals, and prominent yellow stamens; not much fragrance. Tall, strong-growing, floriferous plant, with stiff, erect stems and dull reddish green foliage.

BALL O'COTTON. (Franklin, 1920.) 8.8.

Double type; large, late midseason. Petals incurved, overlapping at first, forming a large, compact white ball; later, the enormous outer petals unfold, the evenly graduated inner petals form a rose-like center of crisp texture; a wire edge of crimson appears on a few petals and there is a faint lemon tint in the center when fully open; fragrance mild and sweet. Medium height; moderately floriferous; stems strong. Foliage good.

BARONESS SCHROEDER. (Kelway, 1889.) 9.0.

Double type; very large; late midseason. Pale pinkish buff, tinted cream; outer petals frequently shaded with faint pink; fragrant. Tall; floriferous; strong stems. Excellent foliage.

BAYADERE. (Lemoine, 1910.) 8.5.

Double type; large; midseason. Very large, overlapping white petals of translucent texture suffused with yellow from buried stamens, faint pink marks on outer petals and an occasional red edge; strong lemon fragrance. Tall; sparse bloomer; strong stems. Excellent foliage.

BENJAMIN FRANKLIN. (Brand, 1907.) 8.1.

Double type; medium size; midseason. Dark crimson, outer petals large and the center composed of smaller overlapping petals mixed with many stamens; faintly fragrant. Very tall; vigorous and free-flowering; blooms held high above the compact foliage on wiry stems.

BERLIOZ. (Crousse.)

Large compact bloom. Currant-red, tinted rose and amaranth. Tips of petals fade to nearly white. Very effective. Late.

CHERRY HILL. (Thurlow, 1915.) 8.6.

Very early red with medium sized double blossoms on very tall strong stems. The deep, rich maroon blossoms have a glistening sheen and show yellow stamens. Excellent for cutting.

CLAIRE DUBOIS. (Crousse, 1886.) 8.7.

One of the very largest Peonies in cultivation. Immense, solid, globular. Center very full, convex, and tufted; petals incurved and fringed. Exquisite clear, rose pink, with a satiny reflex, deeper in color at center. Very tall and a rare bloomer, fragrant. A superb impressive flower.

COQUELIN. (Dessert, 1905.) 7.2.

One of the very earliest varieties to bloom, providing an abundance of color early in the season. The large, cup-shaped flower of the semi-double type has imbricated petals of brilliant *spinel pink*, tipped with silver, shading to *cameo* with amber stamens.

CORNELIA SHAYLOR. (Shaylor, 1917.) 9.1.

Double type; large; late. High-built blooms with immense guards of pale rose,

a collar of flesh-white, and a slightly darker shade in the compact, rose-like center; fragrance very faint. Tall; floriferous; strong stems. Dark, glossy foliage.

COURONNE D'OR. (Calot, 1873.) 8.1.

A late, exceedingly fragrant, ball-shaped bloom. Snowy white with yellowish reflex and carmine edges on center petals. Incomparably lovely and one of the very choicest and best Peonies in cultivation.

DAVID HARUM. (Brand, 1920.) 8.4.

Double type; very large; midseason. Clear, light crimson, smooth texture; scentless. Tall; floriferous; strong stems. Broad light green foliage.

DUCHESSE DE NEMOURS. (Calot, 1856.) 8.1.

An early white of the crown type opening in a globular, cupped form that is very distinct. The color is clear white, with a collar of sulphur white, and a greenish reflex at the center that is most refreshing. It is a vigorous grower, of medium height, a free bloomer, and fragrant. A useful variety, either for the garden or for commercial cutting. This is another one of the older varieties that is outstanding, even when compared with all the newer and more expensive introductions.

DUKE OF WELLINGTON. (Calot, 1859.) 7.8.

A sturdy, tall-growing plant that supports its enormous white flowers with graceful ease. The fragrant bomb-shaped flowers have broad guard petals of pure white surrounding a spherical center of delicate citron yellow. It is so well constructed that it makes an excellent show flower, comparing favorably with the very best of the whites. A reliable midseason cut flower.

EDULIS SUPERBA. (Lemoine, 1824.) 7.6.

Very beautiful, large, full and well-formed bloom, with good culture measuring from seven to eight inches across. Brilliant deep rose pink with silvery reflex. A vigorous grower producing quantities of very fragrant flowers on strong stems. In this climate it rarely fails to be ready on Memorial Day. It is really one of the most valuable Peonies because of its extreme earliness, together with the fact that it leads the field in fragrance, in color, in vigor and in durability as a cut flower.

EDWIN C. SHAW. (Thurlow, 1919.) 9.1.

A clear, shell pink; outer petals broad and rounded, sometimes slightly edged crimson. Translucent texture. The petals are nearly the same length except the extreme center petals which are short. This gives a very pretty cup-shape and the general effect is one of elegance of form. Late mid-season. Delicious fragrance.

ELIZABETH BARRETT BROWNING. (Brand, 1907.) 9.2.

Double type; very large; very late. Creamy blush on opening, becoming white with a pale yellow glow in its depths and prominent red marks in center and on outer petals; very fragrant. Plant very tall; spreading habit; floriferous, strong but crooked stems. Glossy foliage.

ENCHANTERESSE. (Lemoine, 1903.) 8.9.

Double type; very large; very late. White, with lemon tints in collar and crimson wire edges to a few center petals, outside petals tinged with green; faintly fragrant. Tall; floriferous; strong stems. Good foliage.

EUGENE VERDIER. (Calot, 1864.) 8.3.

Very large, compact globular bloom of deep rose pink, deeper toward the center. Vigorous, profuse and delicately fragrant. Excellent for cutting. This variety is one of the latest to bloom and is at its best in a cold climate.



Peonies are Hardy

EUGENIE VERDIER. (Calot, 1864.) 8.6.

Here is a most desirable, fragrant midseason pink. It is an excellent cut flower, delicately hydrangea colored, and of fine texture. The outer petals of this semi-rose type are of lighter shade than the center. Its large size and delicate coloring make it an excellent show flower.

FELIX CROUSSE. (Crousse 1881.) 8.4.

Typical bomb-shaped red, with ruby-flamed center. Fairly dazzling in the brilliancy of its tyrian rose color. It is in fact, the greatest red Peony in cultivation, and should be included in every collection. Free midseason bloomer, and quite fragrant. Very similar but decidedly superior to Augustin d'Hour, which variety we do not offer for that reason.

FESTIVA MAXIMA. (Miellez, 1851.) 9.3.

Very large and full, pure white flower, with few center petals tipped with blood-red spots. A vigorous grower, with massive foliage and long stiff stems. Fragrant, early and free bloomer.

FLORAL TREASURE. (Rosenfield, 1900.) 7.5.

The large double flowers are flesh colored in the center with pale rhodonite pink guards. A vigorous plant, a wonderful late midseason bloomer, an excellent cut flower. An American production of merit and a splendid "hemisphere of fragrance."

FRANCES WILLARD. (Brand, 1907.) 9.1.

Double type; large; late midseason. Opens pale pink, changing to white with yellow suffusion in collar; develops a hollow, symmetrical center and bears a few faint red lines; mildly fragrant. Tall; very floriferous; strong stems. Heavy dark foliage.

FRANCOIS ROUSSEAU. (Dessert, 1909.) 8.2.

Double type; large; early. Rich crimson, with a dark silky sheen, lighter toward the base of the petals and brightened by the reflection from buried stamens; rose-bud center disclosing light yellow stamens when fully opened; fragrant. Medium tall; vigorous; upright growth; free-blooming. Medium dark green foliage.

GEORGIANA SHAYLOR. (Shaylor, 1908.) 8.9.

Double type; very large; late midseason. Light rose-pink, paler on backs of petals, vivid crimson marks on a ring of short petals around center; fragrance sweet but not strong. Medium height; floriferous; good stems and foliage.

GERMAINE BIGOT. (Dessert, 1902.) 8.5.

One of Dessert's finest triumphs. The flowers are large and compact, of the crown type. The color is *cameo pink*, with lighter flesh colored tints in the center; the large guards are splashed with crimson. The plant produces an abundance of flowers, in clusters, during midseason.

GLOIRE DE CHARLES GOMBAULT. (Gombault, 1866.) 7.9

This Peony is distinctly first and foremost of the multi-color varieties. It easily surpasses them all, and standing upon its own merits we consider it one of the most strikingly beautiful varieties on our list. Large, globular flowers, extra dense and compact. Rose color guards, fading to rose pink; cream color crown, touched here and there with bright carmine. Fragrant midseason bloomer on extra long stout stems. Ideal for cut flowers.

GRACE LOOMIS. (Saunders, 1920.) 9.2.

Double type; large; late. White, with faint lemon tints in the depths of

the petals; mildly fragrant. Medium height; floriferous, strong stems. Good foliage.

GRANDIFLORA. (Richardson, 1883.) 8.8.

Exquisite rhodonite pink, with somewhat lighter shades in center. Base of petals touched with straw yellow reflecting upward through the blossom in salmon shades. One of the very largest Peonies and the latest pink to bloom.

GROVER CLEVELAND. (Terry, 1904) 8.2.

Double type; large; late midseason. Bright crimson; mildly fragrant. Medium height; fairly floriferous; stiff stems. Excellent foliage.

JAMES KELWAY. (Kelway, 1900.) 8.7.

Double type; very large; early midseason. Pale pink, becoming almost white with age but retaining a slight flush on outer petals and in center, and displaying a slight yellow tint from intermixed stamens; fragrance not notable. Tall; floriferous; stems not always strong. Foliage good.

JEANNE D'ARC. (Calot, 1859.) 7.9.

A glorious flower—a very "splendor of fragrant loveliness." The collar is yellow; the guards pale rhodonite pink and the full, high center a delicate pink with occasional carmine spots. Exquisite and, with the exception of Gloire de Charles Gombault, the very finest tri-color yet produced. Free, midseason bloomer.

JUBILEE. (Pleas, 1908). 8.9.

Double type; very large; midseason. Long, narrow petals, symmetrically arranged about a star-like center; white with a greenish tinge, and occasional pinkish flush on outer petals; not notably fragrant. Tall; free-flowering; long, weak stems. Good, light green, rather coarse foliage.

JUDGE BERRY. (Brand, 1907.) 8.6.

Double type; very large; early. Even, light rose-pink of a delicate shade, with flesh tones in center, brightened by vivid yellow stamens in middle of flower and in the collar; slight fragrance. Medium height; floriferous; fair stems. Good foliage.

KARL ROSENFIELD. (Rosenfield, 1908.) 8.8.

Rich, clear, glowing crimson. Semi-double type flower of fine form. Full double, large and solidly built. Strong erect grower and good sure bloomer. Very good as a keeper when cut and has no superior as a cut-flower red. One of the very best reds for any purpose.

KELWAY'S GLORIOUS. (Kelway, 1909.) 9.8.

It is generally agreed that only Le Cygne, the finest of them all, exceeds the beauty of Kelway's glorious. The white flower opens in midseason to a large, full, double of wonderful fragrance. Unless to be used for cutting, the plant should not be disbudded because of the prolonged season resulting from the opening of the laterals. An excellent Peony for landscape effect.

LADY ALEXANDRA DUFF. (Kelway, 1902.) 9.1.

Unusual, large, flat, loosely assembled flowers with petals irregular in size and shape. Delicate amaranth pink guard petals. Very pale pink, almost white, are the other petals in this cup-shaped flower. Yellow stamens repose boldly within the cup. To see it is to test its delicious fragrance.

LA FEE. (Lemoine, 1906.) 9.2.

Double type; very large; early midseason. Light old-rose-pink, with a narrow collar of creamy pink of delicate transparent texture; strong rose-like fragrance. Tall free-flowering; wiry stems. Excellent foliage.

LA FRANCE. (Lemoine, 1901.) 9.0.

Double type; very large; very late. Clear, light pink, richer in center and flecked darker toward tips, with crimson splashes on outer petals; fragrant. Tall; floriferous; strong stems. Good foliage.

LA ROSIERE. (Crousse, 1888.) 8.3.

This is not a yellow flower but its center of golden yellow stamens surrounded by cream white tempts the use of "yellow" for accurate description. In form and effect it resembles a large tea rose with broad, imbricated petals. It is double in type. The very fragrant flowers open in midseason, growing in profuse clusters and creating a delightful effect if not disbudded. Very satisfactory as a cut flower.

LA TENDRESSE. (Crousse, 1896.) 8.1.

Very full, immense flowers with thick, wax-like petals. Color creamy-white changing to pure white, flecked with crimson. Slightly fragrant, blooming in clusters during early midseason.

LAURA DESSERT. (Dessert, 1913.) 8.8.

Anemone type; early midseason; medium size and height. Guards pale pink in bud, opening pale lemon, fading white; center a flat, compact tuft of petaloids deep cream at base, paling outward giving a light lemon yellow effect. Moderately fragrant. Free blooming on sturdy upright stems.

LE CYGNE. (Lemoine, 1907.) 9.9.

People who have seen Le Cygne never have to ask why it is rated the highest of all Peonies. It is a perfect flower, perfect in its whiteness, its form, its texture, its fragrance, its size, and above all vigorous and requiring only the same care that is given to any ordinary plant.

LILLIAN GUMM. (Gumm, 1921.) 8.8.

Double type; very large; late midseason. Outer petals very large and ruffled, set edgeways to accommodate the great number of crowded center petals arranged in whorls; deep rose pink, suffused by chamois from the base of the petals; very fine fragrance. Tall; vigorous; strong, stiff stems. Excellent foliage.

LIVINGSTONE. (Crousse, 1879.) 8.1.

Enormous, very massive, imbricated and compact bloom. Pale lilac-rose with silver tips; center petals flecked with carmine. A vigorous grower and one of the latest to bloom. Long, strong stems. Exquisite in the bud and a great keeper but lacking in fragrance. A Peony of the highest class.

LONGFELLOW. (Brand, 1907.) 9.0.

The rich red of this gorgeous Peony always assures it a prominent place in any garden and is sure to win the affections of those who love red Peonies. The brilliant cherry-red color is not affected by sunshine as are some of the other red varieties.

LOVELINESS. (Hollis, 1907.) 8.8.

Double type; large; very late. Pale flesh-pink, darkest about midway to the center, which is flesh-white with a few red markings; mildly fragrant. Medium tall; floriferous; strong stems. Attractive foliage.

MABEL L. FRANKLIN. (Franklin, 1920.) 9.0.

Double type; very large; midseason. Guards and center brilliant rose-pink; collar flesh-pink or pale salmon; flowers regularly built but loose and graceful; strong lemon fragrance. Average height. Strong grower; floriferous; stems bend. Foliage large, light green.

MADAME AUGUSTE DESSERT. (Dessert, 1899.) 8.6.

Large, imbricated, cup-shaped flower, perfect in form with rounded petals of





rose pink tinged with crimson. Holds itself together neatly and with "sassy" dignity. The fragrant flowers bloom freely, during early midseason.

MADAME CALOT. (Miellez, 1856.) 8.1.

Large, well-built rose type flower. Pale pink with darker center; collar tinged with silver. Prominent carpels add a touch of pink. The fragrant flowers bloom in early midseason.

MADAME DE VERNEVILLE. (Crousse, 1885.) 7.9.

Very large, exquisitely beautiful imbricated, bomb-shaped white. The guard petals are pure paper white and very broad, folding over the flowers; center daintily suffused with blush and cream tipped carmine. The whole flower heavy and compact. Strong grower, a free bloomer and early with a delightful, sweet rose like fragrance.

MADAME DUCEL. (Mechin, 1880.) 7.9.

Enormous, globular and compact bloom; literally packed with petals, which are somewhat incurved like chrysanthemums. A striking, brilliant shade of deep rose pink with silvery reflex. Holds its form and color to the end. Considered by many the very finest formed pink in existence. A magnificent cut-flower variety and wonderfully effective for landscape work. Fragrant and early.

MADAME EMILE GALLE. (Crousse, 188.) 8.5.

Large, cup-shaped and imbricated bloom. Exquisite shade of soft lilac, with milk-white center which slowly changes to pronounced cream-color. A refined and rarely beautiful flower, not easy to describe. A very fragrant flower of double type, blooming freely rather late in the season.

MADAME EMILE LEMOINE. (Lemoine, 1899.) 8.9.

Enormous and fragrant flower; white with creamy cast accentuated by the primuline yellow stamens. Red tipped seed pods give the effect of a pink center. Exceedingly rare.

MADAME GEISSLER. (Crousse, 1880.) 7.9.

One of the very largest Peonies in existence; very double, globular. Color, a glossy silver pale amaranth pink, shading to tyrian pink at base of petals. Delicious and distinct fragrance. An abundant midseason bloomer; heavy and perfect flowers coming even on the youngest plants. An ideal keeper, one of the best for cut flowers. True stock of this variety is very scarce.

MADAME JULES DESSERT. (Dessert, 1909.) 9.4.

Double type; very large; late midseason. Long, smooth petals of flesh-white, graduated symmetrically about a hollow, funnel-like center, with a few stamens in its depths, which reflect a yellow glow through its translucent texture; mildly fragrant. Tall; splendid habit very floriferous; stems occasionally floppy. Good foliage.

MARGUERITE GERARD. (Crousse, 1892.) 8.4.

Fragrant, compact, semi-double developing into a crown with stamens. Broad, pale rbodonite-pink petals, changing to soft blush, almost white. Creamy white center. Exquisite free-flowering Peony and very rare. This Peony challenges description. Visitors at the gardens always order more than do our catalog customers.

MARIE CROUSSE. (Crousse, 1892.) 8.9.

Exquisite, large, globular flower, very full. Soft, flesh pink, shaded with glossy lilac. Tall, erect and strong grower—free bloomer in midseason.

MARIE LEMOINE. (Calot, 1869.) 8.5.

This is the absolutely indispensable Peony to any collection, large or small. Exquisitely beautiful, massive and solid ivory white, deepening to chamois toward the center and very occasionally tipped with carmine. Invariably a six to seven inch blossom, even under indifferent cultivation. A fragrant free bloomer on extra stiff erect stems and, being a very late white, particularly valuable.

MARTHA BULLOCH. (Brand, 1907.) 9.1.

Late blooming, double, very large, fragrant blossoms of bright rose pink with lighter high lights. Light green, narrow foliage. Tall strong stems. Splendid for exhibition purposes.

MARY BRAND. (Brand, 1907,) 8.7.

This midseason double Peony is a rich, Indian Lake red showing a few long slender yellow stamens.

MAUD L. RICHARDSON. (Hollis, 1904.) 8.5.

Double type; large to very large; very late. Light rose-pink with a flesh-pink undertone which is most pronounced at base of petals; fragrance strong and pleasing. Tall; floriferous; excellent stems and foliage.

MILTON HILL. (Richardson, 1891.) 9.0.

Of great size, densely compact and crowded with petals of the finest texture. An equisite deep rose pink. A late bloomer and undoubtedly one of Richardson's best productions.

MODELE DE PERFECTION. (Crousse, 1875.) 7.8.

This delightfully refreshing flower is a full, compact double form. It is pale rose pink shaded darker in the center and bordered with silvery rose-tipped collar and large guards, forming high globular buds. It is a fragrant, free bloomer.

MODESTE GUERIN. (Guerin, 1845.) 7.8.

One of the loveliest of them all and of great all-round merit. Very large, full and compact. Superb deep solid tyrian pink. Very free flowering and fragrant. Exceptionally rigid stems and very distinctive foliage.

MONSIEUR DUPONT. (Calot, 1872.) 8.3.

Immense, cream-white, beautifully built flower. Central petals prominently splashed with bright acajou red and a few golden stamens discernible at their base. An exceedingly fragrant, free-blooming, late mid-season variety, growing on long stiff upright stems. One of the best whites we have for cutting. A rich and rarely beautiful flower.

MONSIEUR JULES ELIE. (Crousse, 1888.) 9.2.

Immense, globular, very full, double, imbricated bloom on very heavy stems; petalage broad and overlapping, forming one of the most perfect specimens imaginable; color, an ideal, glossy, pale amaranth pink, shading deeper at the base, and the entire blossom covered with a silvery reflex. A vigorous plant, freely blooming, very fragrant. Scarcely rivalled either for cut flowers or for landscape work.

MONSIEUR MARTIN CAHUZAC. (Dessert, 1899.) 8.8.

The darkest red Peony in existence; almost black, a brilliant, dark Bordeaux with metallic reflex. Large flower of fine form with rounded petals; plant erect and ideal habit. An extraordinary flower, raggedly put together and therefore unusually decorative.

MRS. A. M. BRAND. (Brand, 1925.) 9.6.

Double type; very large; late. Clear white flower of flat form; guards broad and slightly differentiated; center of broad, graduated petals of remarkable

substance; fragrant. Medium tall; upright growth; strong stems. Heavy, rich green foliage.

MRS. EDWARD HARDING. (Shaylor, 1918). 9.3.

Double type; large; midseason. White, illumined by many golden stamens hidden under the petals and by a bright tuft of them in the center when fully open; not notably fragrant. Medium height; free-flowering; stiff stems. Excellent foliage.

MYRTLE GENTRY. (Brand, 1925.) 9.1.

Double type; late midseason. Rosy white, suffused with tints of flesh and salmon; pleasing fragrance. Strong stems. Good habit. Award of Merit at St. Paul-Minneapolis Show, 1923.

NINA SECOR. (Secor, 1922.) 9.0.

Double type, medium to large; midseason. Pure white, with yellow glow in depths; petals very smooth and firm, built into a rounded, semi-globular form with a tulip-like center; fine crimson edge on a few central petals, and the guard petals are splashed with maroon; moderate, bitter fragrance. Average height; floriferous; crooked stems, bearing flowers in clusters. Foliage narrow, incurved, dark green.

NYMPHÆA. (Thurlow, 1919.) 8.8.

Double type; large; midseason. Creamy white, flushed pale rose-pink on first opening; symmetrical, cupped form with a small tuft in the center and many stamens which diffuse a golden yellow light throughout the flower; mildly fragrant. Medium height; profuse bloomer; stiff stems. Good foliage.

OCTAVIE DEMAY. (Calot, 1867.) 8.5.

An exquisite, early midseason flower, large in size and well-formed, with large guard petals. Pale flesh color, with darker shaded center. A fragrant profuse bloomer, on short strong stems. An admirable cut flower.

OFFICINALIS RUBRA SUPERBA.

An early blooming, non-fragrant red. The "piney" of grandmother's garden.

PASTEUR. (Crousse, 1896.) 8.4.

Double type; large; late midseason. Pale pink on large outer petals; the long, curled, central petals almost white with a green center deep in the flower; faintly fragrant. Tall, free-flowering; stout stems. Good foliage.

PHILIPPE RIVOIRE. (Riviere, 1911.) 9.2.

This very scarce, bright red flower, of beautiful form and sturdy growth, is the most fragrant of the red Peonies. Its petals are of unusually glossy texture. No stamens in evidence. Midseason.

PHOEBE CARY. (Brand, 1907.) 8.8.

Double type; large; very late. Pale old-rose-pink, darkening toward center; moderately rose-scented. Tall; floriferous; stems strong but lax at base. Good light green foliage.

PHYLLIS KELWAY. (Kelway, 1908.) 9.0.

Semi-double type; very large; midseason. Rose-pink, paling to white in center, thin texture; hollow, cupped form, at first showing many stamens, later

developing a flat crown which covers the imperfect collar; faintly fragrant. Medium height; floriferous; stiff stems. Abundant foliage.

PRESIDENT WILSON. (Thurlow, 1918.) 9.3.

Soft amaranth pink, changing to shell-pink as flower opens, guard petals sometimes show crimson markings. Center petals very short, somewhat lacinated, gradually increasing in length outward, producing a cup-like effect. Fragrant. Late. This is generally considered one of the finest varieties for garden or for cut flower. The blooms will last a long time and hold their delicate coloring to the end.

PRIMEVERE. (Lemoine, 1907.) 8.6.

Midseason, bomb type. Creamy white guards splashed crimson; amber yellow center. Fragrant, fairly compact and flat. Tall and vigorous. The most yellow of all double Peonies.

PRIDE OF ESSEX. (Thurlow, 1916.) 8.9.

Double type; large; midseason. Incurved guards and a crumpled center of light rose-pink, paling to blush-white with a golden suffusion from its many stamens; central petals boldly marked with crimson; strong, fresh fragrance. Tall; floriferous, stiff stems. Good foliage.

RAOUL DESSERT. (Dessert, 1910.) 9.0.

Double type; large; late. Brilliant shell-pink, of a shade extremely rare in peonies, lacking those mauve or bluish tints which characterize the family; rose-scented. Medium height; free-flowering; erect stems. Excellent foliage.

REINE HORTENSE. (Calot, 1857.) 8.7.

A delightful pale congo pink with occasional stripings of pomegranate purple. Prominent yellow stamens. The fragrant semi-double rather flat flowers open on tall stems during midseason. A good cut-flower variety.

RICHARD CARVEL. (Brand, 1913.) 8.8.

This is one of the few red Peonies that are sweet-scented. Its color is a clear, deep red that does not burn in the sunshine. It is double in form and free blooming. As it blooms early and is an attractive cut-flower variety, it is a desirable addition to any collection.

ROSE SHAYLOR. (Shaylor, 1920.) 9.1.

Midseason, very large double blooms. Pale flesh pink lighter at the edges and shading to creamy yellow at the base of the petals; center petals edged with crimson. Opens broad and flat with hollow center showing richly creamy flesh pink. Slightly fragrant. Tall, strong stems.

SARAH BERNHARDT. (Lemoine, 1906.) 9.0.

So well-known and admired that a description seems unnecessary. As a show flower, only a better Sarah Bernhardt can compete. The large, compact, semi-double flowers of *pale amaranth pink*, tipped silver, open in late midseason, in clusters carried on strong, vigorous plants. It is gifted with a delicious fragrance and, being a dependable show flower, is naturally a good cut flower.

SOLANGE. (Lemoine, 1907.) 9.7.

This flower is almost pink, almost yellow, but not quite either, deepening to buff at the center. The vigor, size and fragrance of this lovely flower help to give it its place in the trio of the world's best Peonies.

SOLFATARE. (Calot, 1861.) 7.6.

One of the few yellow Peonies. The flowers are large, full and fragrant, with white guard petals and center of pale lemon-yellow. A beautiful and distinct wariety.

SOUVENIR DE LOUIS BIGOT. (Dessert, 1913.) 9.1.

Exceptionally large blooms of a very distinctive shade of deep rose pink, with silvery lights, mildly fragrant. This is an extra-fine and scarce midseason variety.

SUZETTE. (Dessert, 1911.) 8.2.

Double type; large; midseason. Clear rose-pink, with deeper old-rose in center of petals, brightened by yellow reflections from numerous stamens; mildly fragrant. Medium height; extremely floriferous; stiff stems. Good foliage.

TENUIFLOIA FLORE-PLEN, or Fern-leaved Peony.

(Ukraine, Russia.) 7.8.

A dwarf, fern-like plant, with slender leaves and a bright red blossom. Earliest of the herbaceous peonies to bloom. Sweet fragrance. Shortly after blooming the leaves die down to the ground and no leaves appear until the following spring.

THERESE. (Dessert, 1904.) 9.8.

Many consider this the most beautiful of all Peonies. The flowers are enormous in size, with delicious fragrance, perfect form and fine texture. The plants are vigorous, with large leaves and long stems. The color is an exquisite rose-pink with deep shadings. In spite of its apparent delicacy, it is one of the best varieties for cutting and is a favorite with florists.

TOURANGELLE. (Dessert, 1910.) 9.4.

Of a delicate opalescent tint that can hardly be described. It is a flower that can be watched lovingly and keenly enjoyed as it unfolds from tight bud to full-blown blossom. Its various depths of delicate pink seem to be caused by the reflection of one petal on another. The transparency of its petals gives it a dreamy loveliness quite unlike any other variety.

TRIOMPHE de L'EXPOSITION de LILLE. (Calot, 1865.) 7.8.

The pyramidal shape of this well-constructed Peony distinguishes it from others, except from Modele de Perfection, which it resembles. The compact, double flower is *pale rosolane* with minute touches of a deeper shade. The guard petals are nearly white. It is a fragrant and profuse grower of midseason and a reliable cut-flower variety.

UMBELLATA ROSEA. (Dessert, 1895.) 7.4.

Considered one of the most valuable of Peonies because it is the earliest to open. The center is *flesh color* and the guards *rose-pink*. The double flower is well supported by the strong stems of a vigorous plant; the side buds should be left to bloom for landscape effect.

VICTOIRE DE LA MARNE. (Dessert, 1915.) 8.2.

Double type; very large; midseason. Purplish red, with lighter edges; decidedly unpleasant odor. Medium height; floriferous; good stems and foliage.

WALTER FAXON. (Richardson, 1904.) 9.3.

This is the Peony that people always remember and easily recognize. Its color is a clear, glowing coral pink utterly unlike any other variety. In size, form and vigor this is one of the best. In every way a favorite.



THERESE

MIXED REDS, PINKS AND WHITES.

Peony roots whose tags are lost or whose identity has been lost never find their way back to their companions. We have a limited number of such roots which we offer in 3-5 eye divisions.

Single and Japanese Peonies

ALBIFLORA. (Dessert, 1902.) 8.4.

A large, pure white single Peony with prominent golden stamens. Its fragrant flowers growing in clusters on strong stiff stems and its beautiful foliage make it especially desirable for landscape effect. Frequently listed as "The Bride."

ALMA. (Shaylor, 1916.) 8.5.

Japanese type; medium size; midseason. Light pink, darker on the edges and in the middle of the petals, paling to white at base; center of incurved, narrow, canary-yellow petaloids and greenish yellow carpels; fragrance poor. Medium height; fairly floriferous; strong stems and good foliage.

AMA-NO-SODE. (Japan.) 9.2.

Japanese type; very large; midseason. The flower has not more than two rows of long, wide-spread petals of rose-pink forming a saucer-like cup about an immense center of long, yellow staminodes with flattened, crinkled tips stained with rose; carpels green with yellowish tips and white kernels at the base; fragrance poor. Medium height; vigorous growth; very floriferous; strong stems. Good foliage.

BLACK PRINCE. (Thurlow, 1915.) 8.5.

Single type; large; midseason. Long, cupped petals, irregularly arranged, deep crimson with a dull, satin sheen; center small, stamens reddish at base, tipped yellow; carpels green with prominent white base and tips; fragrance not pleasing. Medium height; floriferous; stiff stems. Excellent foliage.

CATHEDRAL. (Origin unknown.) 8.1.

Japanese type; large; midseason. Vivid dark rose-pink guard petals, with narrow, lighter edges; compact conter of long, pale pink petaloids with pointed tips and yellow at the base; reddish stigmas; slightly fragrant. Height 30 inches; growth medium; free-blooming. Foliage dark green.

CLAIRETTE. (Dessert, 1905.) 8.1.

Single type; large; midseason. Pale pink buds, opening to regularly formed white flowers of silky texture with a tuft of yellow stamens in the center; no appreciable fragrance. Tall; profuse in bloom; strong stems. Good foliage.

CLIO. (Peterson.) 6.5.

Large, early, graceful, single, with petals displaying every shade of pink. The strong, well-formed plants with flowers in clusters are very decorative.

FLASHLIGHT. (Hollis, 1906.) 8.2.

Japanese type; medium size; midseason. Cupped guard-petals dark rosy red, with a prominent tuft of pinkish staminodes tipped bright yellow, giving a slightly terra-cotta effect to the center of the bloom; little or no fragrance. Medium height; medium growth; free-blooming. Medium heavy foliage.

FUYAJO. (Origin unknown.) 9.2.

Japanese type; medium size; midseason. Dark purplish crimson guard petals of smooth texture and heart-shaped outline; center a cluster of dark old-rose

petaloids heavily tipped with pale buff or cream; carpels green, tipped pink and white; slightly fragrant. Tall; floriferous; strong stems. Foliage ruffled and tinged with red.

GYPSY. (Hollis, 1904.) 8.0.

Japanese type; medium size; midseason. Guards dark wine-red, evenly rounded and cupped; center of almost fully transformed petaloids, light at the base, shading to the same color as the guards on the face, and creamy white on the reverse, lightly bordered buff at the tips; carpels rosy green, tipped red. Medium tall; upright; slender but stiff stems.

KING OF ENGLAND. (Kelway, 1902.) 8.6.

Japanese, early midseason. The guards of this very large blossom are dull glossy very dark crimson. The center of incurving buff staminodes is streaked with dark rose pink. Slightly fragrant. Tall slender stems.

LE JOUR. (Shaylor, 1915.) 8.6.

Single type; very large; early midseason. White, with two rows of very long, wide, overlapping petals; center, a broad ring of golden yellow stamens about a group of reddish carpels tipped darker and having a pink line at the base; not notably fragrant. Tall; very floriferous; strong, erect stems. Good foliage.

L'ETINCELANTE. (Dessert, 1905.) 8.4.

Single type; very large; midseason. Cupped flowers of very bright pink, each petal having a lighter, almost silvery border; stamens bright golden yellow; not notably fragrant. Tall; floriferous; stiff stems. Excellent foliage.

MARGARET ATWOOD (Origin uncertain.) 8.7.

Japanese type; large; midseason. Pure white, cup-like flowers, with an occasional pink flush on the outside; center a ball of golden staminodes; carpels green with a white base and creamy tips; not notably fragrant. Medium tall; strong growth; free-blooming. Foliage medium, broad and smooth.

MARGUERITE DESSERT. (Dessert, 1913.) 8.5.

Single type; very large; midseason. White, thickly powdered with pale rosepink dots; small cluster of golden yellow stamens in center; carpels tipped red; fragrance faint but pleasing. Tall; very floriferous; strong stems and foliage.

MARIE JACQUIN. (Verdier.) 8.3.

Has a perfection of form that is found in few single Peonies. The pure-white, carefully rounded petals form a cup that closely resembles a waxy white water-lily.

MIKADO. (Barr.) 8.6.

This is a Japanese Peony whose brilliant rose red petals and yellow center produce a glow of color that resembles in effect a bit of rare old Chinese porcelain.

OHIRAMA. (Origin unknown.) 8.2.

Japanese type; very large. Guards bright rose-pink, with a brighter suffusion at the base; center composed of yellow staminodes tinged pink near the tips; carpels green with pink stigmas; sweetly fragrant. Height 2 feet; growth fairly strong; free-blooming. Foliage medium.

PERLE BLANCHE. (Dessert, 1913.) 8.4.

Single type; large; early midseason. Broad, rounded, white petals enclosing a large mass of golden stamens; not especially fragrant. Tall; free-flowering; erect stems. Good foliage.

PETITE RENEE. (Dessert, 1899.) 7.6.

Approaching Petite Renee one's eye is caught from a distance by its great clusters of loose, large-petalled, rose-colored flowers, with their prominent mustard yellow stamens. Closer examination shows the terminal blossom to be of semi-double form with narrow center petals surrounded by large guards. The lateral flowers are nearly always single and possess a care-free spirit of play in the lightest breeze. This is a charming Peony to plant for landscape effect, since it is not a cut-flower type and should never be disbudded.

PRIDE OF LANGPORT. (Kelway, 1909.) 8.9.

Single type; very large; midseason. Wide-spreading, cupped petals of pale rose-pink, paling a little near the base, surrounding a large cluster of very bright golden yellow stamens and pale green carpels with light pink kernels at the base and red tips; not notably fragrant. Tall; floriferous; thin, wiry stems. Abundant foliage.

SOME GANOKO. (Origin unknown.) 9.0.

Japanese type; large; midseason. Broad, waved, and cupped guard petals of clear dark crimson; broad, flat center of much crinkled light buff staminodes, tinted with rose-red markings; carpels pale yellow, with a white line at the base; very fragrant. Height about 2 feet; fairly strong growth; slightly spreading; free-blooming. Foliage dark green, broad, and ruffled.

TAMATE-BOKU. (Origin unknown.) 9.4.

Japanese type; very large; midseason. Enormous, cupped petals of dark old-rose-pink; center composed of very long, thread-like staminodes yellow at the base, with rose-pink, flat, crinkled tips tinted buff and yellow at the edges; downy pale green carpels with vivid pink line at the base and striking rose-red tips; faintly fragrant. Medium height; strong, pyramidal habit; fairly free-flowering; strong stems. Leathery leaves.

TOKIO. (Japan.) 8.9.

A splendid landscape variety of good size, on tall strong stems. The broad, well-rounded petals are *mallow pink* deepening almost to purple on outer edges. Single.

WHITE LADY. (Kelway, 1900.) 9.0.

Japanese type; large; late midseason. White, undulated and cupped petals, surrounding a large center of yellow staminodes with rough edges, and pale green carpels yellow at base and tipped with orange; not fragrant. Dwarf: floriferous; stiff stems. Good foliage.

Tree Peonies

The following Tree Peonies all produce very large vividly colored blossoms, with petals beautifully crinkled, like delicate crepe paper. They blossom on woody stems, some ten days before the earliest of herbaceous peonies. As they become well established they bear flowers in great profusion.

AKASHI-GATA. Clear salmon pink of semi-double form.

ARGOSY. (Saunders, 1928.)

This gorgeous origination of Professor Saunders is worthy of special comment. The clear, bright yellow petals radiate from a deep purple-red center, forming a glowing disc of unusual charm. The fairly large flower is of semi-double type and is carried erect on strong stems. The plant is vigorous, with handsome foliage

MOHICAN PEONIES

adding to the sensational effect of this new tree peony. It is almost herbaceous in habit, but it shoots up vigorously in early spring. To see it is to want it; to learn that it is scarce only heightens the desire to possess it.

BANKSI. Free-flowering pink of double form.

GOSHO-ZAKURA. A delicate shell-pink single.

HAKU-RAKU-TEN. Pure white, semi-double.

IRO-NO-SEKI. A flesh-colored single.

IWATO-KAGAMI. Pink of almost full double type.

KIN-FUKURIN. A bright purplish-pink single.

MICHISHIBA. A rose-pink single.

MOUTAN. Purple-red single.

RUBIBAN. Purple of semi-double type.

SHIN-AKEBONO. Flesh-colored and almost full double.

TAMA-FUYO. A clear-colored pink of single type.

TAMA-USAGI. Paper-white single.

TSUKASA-JISHI. Lavender single.



TREE PEONY ARGOSY



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GARDEN NOTES



GARDEN NOTES

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